

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method for providing usage information of a first web site designated by a user, the method comprising:

receiving, from the user, a designation of the first web site as a monitored website, wherein the monitored website is any web site on a communication network;

monitoring usage of the monitored website, wherein the usage is information about users who have viewed or are currently viewing the monitored website; and

transmitting data representative of the usage to the user by way of a monitor window when the user is connected to any other website on the communication network, such that the user can simultaneously view the data representative of the usage and any other website.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

displaying to the user the usage information in a graphical format.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

displaying to the user the usage information in a text format.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the usage information is displayed automatically to the user.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the usage information is displayed only upon a command generated by the user.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for providing usage information of a first web site designated by a user, the method comprising:

receiving, from the user, a designation of the first web page as a monitored website wherein the monitored website is any web site on a communication network;

monitoring usage of the monitored website, wherein the usage is information about users who have viewed or are currently viewing the monitored website; and

transmitting data representative of the usage to the user by way of a monitor window when the user is connected to any other website on the communication network, such that the user can simultaneously view the data representative of the usage and any other website.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for providing usage information of a first web site designated by a user, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory storing processing instructions for controlling the processor, the processor operative with the processing instructions to:

receive, from the user, a designation of the first web page as a monitored website wherein the monitored website is any web site on a communication network;

monitoring usage of the monitored website, wherein the usage is information about users who have viewed or are currently viewing the monitored website; and

transmitting data representative of the usage to the user by way of a monitor window when the user is connected to any other website on the communication network, such that the user can simultaneously view the data representative of the usage and any other website.

16-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the usage information comprises:

an indication of a most-popular next-visited web site for plurality of users;

an indication of web sites visited by the plurality of users prior to visiting the first web site; and

an indication of when and for how long the plurality of users visited the first web site.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for providing usage information of a first web site designated by a first user, the method comprising:

receiving, from the first user, a designation of the first web site as a monitored website, wherein the monitored website is any web site on a communication network;

monitoring at least one other user's usage of the monitored website, wherein the usage is information about the at least one other user who has viewed or is currently viewing the monitored website; and

transmitting data representative of the at least one other user's usage to the first user by way of a monitor window when the first user is connected to any other website on the communication network, such that the user can simultaneously view the data representative of the usage and any other website.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

displaying to the first user the at least one other user's usage information in a graphical format.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

displaying to the first user the at least one other user's usage information in a text format.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the at least one other user's usage information is displayed automatically to the first user.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the at least one other user's usage information is displayed in response to a command generated by the first user.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the usage information comprises an indication of a most-popular next-visited web site for a plurality of users, an indication of web sites visited by the plurality of users prior to visiting the first web site, and an indication of when and for how long the plurality of users visited the first web site